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Minutes

Bureau of Pipefitters, Refrigeration Technicians and Sprinklerfitters
Department of Public Safety, Bldg B, 1380 Bay St., Taunton, MA 02780
March 21, 2012, at 10:00 a.m.

1. Meeting called to order by the Chairman at 10:05 a.m., followed by roll call:

Board Members Present:

Henry Geryk, Chairman
Mark Fortune
Michael Torchio
Dan Dumont
Pauline Lally
William Gallagher

Board Members Not Present:

Leo Fahey
Jennifer Revill
Frank Norton
John Viola
William Young

Guests Present:

Jay Johnson, Chief of Inspections
Brian Logan, Supervisor, District Inspectors
Ted Carroll, District Inspector
Cesar Lastra, Technical Code Coordinator
Holly Bartlett, Clerical Assistant

2. The Chairman acknowledged that a quorum was present. A motion to approve the agenda into was made by Mark Fortune, seconded by William Gallagher, and agreed upon by a unanimous vote.
3. A motion to enter into record the minutes from the January 2012 meeting was made by Mark Fortune, seconded by William Gallagher, and agreed upon by a unanimous vote.
4. An application from Daniel W. Hill to sit for Sprinkler Journeyman was presented to the Bureau, Mr. Hill was in attendance at this meeting. Mr. Hill currently works for Sprinkler Systems, Inc, out of Maine. The Bureau members asked Mr. Hill about his work experience and education, but could not make a determination as to what his current Maine license covers. ***The Chairman proposed to put Mr. Hill's application on hold until a determination can be made as to the scope of Mr. Hill's current Maine license. A motion to continue this matter until the next meeting was made by Dan Dumont, seconded by Mark Fortune, and approved by a unanimous vote.**
5. An application from William C. Bragiel to sit for Refrigeration Contractor was presented to the Bureau, Mr. Bragiel was in attendance at this meeting. Mr. Bragiel stated that his application was disapproved

because he does not have the required 100 hours of advanced refrigeration theory. **A motion to approve this application was made by William Gallagher, seconded by Dan Dumont, and approved by a unanimous vote.** Mr. Bragiel thanked Henry Geryk for his assistance.

6. An application from Patrick Pickup for Refrigeration Technician was presented to the Bureau, Mr. Pickup was not present at this meeting. Mr. Pickup's education at Mass Maritime was discussed, but the Bureau members could not determine what the curriculum of the program Mr. Pickup complete consisted of. **A motion was made by Pauline Lally, seconded by Dan Dumont, to postpone consideration of this application until additional information can be obtained from the applicant; this motion was approved by a unanimous vote. Mr. Pickup will be contacted to provide a transcript of his education, the current status of the apprentice program he was enrolled in, and documentation of any additional education he received as an apprentice.**
7. Old Business:
 - a. The Chairman readdressed the matter of the policy of the Plumbing Board which allows refrigeration technicians to disconnect/connect certain gas valves when doing refrigeration work. Brian Logan confirmed that the Plumbing Board has not changed or rescinded this policy, that the letter published in 2007 by the Plumbing Board is still in effect. It was further clarified that this policy has been included in the draft of the re-write of 522 CMR by the Board of Boiler Rules.
 - b. Mark Fortune asked as to the status of the revision of 528 CMR. Holly Bartlett passed that DPS has not received back the CMR submitted to the Governor's office for approval. Holly asked the Bureau members to provide to her the e-mail addresses of anyone that might be interested in attending the public hearing when the amended CMR is presented. Dan Dumont recommended that Roy Greenwald be notified of the public hearing. ***Holly will assemble a distribution list for the public hearing, including Roy Greenwald.**
8. New Business
 - a. Mark Fortune addressed the matter of the Bureau having the authority to approve applications to examine based on the applicant holding a license in another jurisdiction. Mr. Fortune pointed out that applicants can obtain a license in another state, and then approach the Bureau to sit for an exam without having any of the required training; he further suggested that DPS look into what licenses issued by other states include. Brian Logan asked the Bureau if there was ever a grandfather policy in effect for PJ holders to sit for SJ? The reply was no. Mr. Fortune asked who at DPS approves applications, and how do applications get referred to the Bureau. The Chairman explained that the applications are reviewed by the district engineering inspectors, and they make the determination as to which applications are referred to the Bureau for review. Mr. Fortune observed the total number of sprinkler contractor licenses, and questioned the process for ensuring that all contractors currently hold the required position in a company. Brian Logan said that perhaps an audit might address this. Chief Johnson suggested that DPS could require proof of employment with a corporation at the time of renewal of sprinkler contractor licenses, and will follow up with Cesar Lastra to consider adding proof of employment to the application forms. The matter of requiring applicants to provide proof of insurance was discussed, as this would move towards eliminating licenses of individuals who merely hold a license to pull permits for hire for other companies. The Chairman agreed that control of the contractor licenses must be more strict.
 - b. Mark Fortune asked what the status of the ticketing program is; Brian Logan told him that this legislation still pends.

- c. Mark Fortune asked what the 'pending' status of some current license applications means. Holly explained that the pending status only indicates that an application has been entered into the licensing database (MLO) by DPS Cashiers, and no further action (such as withdrawal of the application, approval and issuance of license, etc,) has been taken.
9. With no remaining topics on the agenda, a motion was made by Mike Torchio, seconded by Mark Fortune, to adjourn this meeting at 11:15 a.m., motion passed by a unanimous vote.

**Action items to be addressed at the next meeting are indicated by an asterisk*

The next meeting of the Bureau of Pipefitters, Refrigeration Technicians, and Sprinklerfitters will tentatively be on Wednesday, April 18, 2012.